

In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for communicating data packets according to classes of service comprising:

a service interface for receiving the data packets, the data packets including a differentiated service codepoint field having a plurality of differentiated service codepoint values;

a differentiated service profile associated with the service interface;

a plurality of transport interfaces operatively coupled to the service interface, the service interface assigning a first data packet having a first differentiated service codepoint value to a first transport interface according to the differentiated service profile, wherein the service interface assigns a second data packet having a second differentiated service codepoint value to a second transport interface according to the differentiated service profile;

a second service interface; and

a second differentiated service profile ~~operatively coupled to~~ associated with the second service interface, the second service interface operatively coupled to the plurality of transport interfaces, the second service interface assigning a third data packet having a third differentiated service codepoint value to a third transport interface according to the second differentiated service profile.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the second service interface assigns a fourth data packet having a fourth differentiated service codepoint value to the first transport interface according to the second differentiated service profile.

5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the second service interface assigns a fifth data packet having the first differentiated service codepoint value to the second transport interface according to the differentiated service profile.

6. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the data packets received at the service interface includes a first subset of the data packets having a first class of service and a second subset of the data packets having a second class of service.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 6 wherein the first transport interface transports the first subset of data packets having the first class of service.

8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the second transport interface transports the second subset of data packets having the second class of service.

9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 8 wherein the differentiated service profile maps the first differentiated service codepoint value to the first class of service and a first drop precedence and maps the second differentiated service codepoint value to the second class of service and a second drop precedence.

10. (Canceled)

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